



REDI Equitable Development Framework and Principles

The following framework and principles have been developed by the Richmond Equitable Development Initiative (REDI), a diverse coalition of organizations committed to growth that benefits rather than burdens existing residents and that involves low-income residents in the decisions that impact their lives and neighborhoods. Piecing together the intersections among critical elements of the city, including **land use, housing, economic development, transportation and health**, will build a path to a vibrant, holistic, and just community. As a foundation, the following framework and principles are REDI's vision of an equitable Richmond.

What is Equitable Development?

- I. A commitment to reducing poverty and social inequities**
- II. Revitalization of core neighborhoods**
- III. Adequately providing basic needs and services for all people regardless of socioeconomic status**
- IV. Understanding the interdependence of land use, economic development, transportation, housing, and health**
- V. Development that results in a healthy local environment and strong quality of life for all**
- VI. Engagement of those most directly impacted- such as low-income people, people of color, immigrants, churches, and unions- at every stage of the development process**

The Richmond General Plan Update represents a profound opportunity for Richmond's residents to develop clear, realistic and forward-looking policies for building a more equitable and sustainable future for all who call it home. To guide the process for developing sound policies, REDI uses the following principles as a solid foundation for Equitable Development.

Equitable Development Principles

Equitable Land Use requires...

- A healthier local environment, especially in communities currently impacted by heavy industry.
- An increase in living wage jobs for Richmond residents and/or an increase in entrepreneurial opportunities for Richmond residents on currently zoned industrial and commercial land.
- Any significant changes in land use should be tied to an increase in community ownership of land through a land trust or local community-based organizations.
- Infill development in already developed areas.
- Mixed-use density along major transit corridors.

Equitable Economic Development requires...

- Strategic planning that establishes long-term priorities and criteria for economic development to guide future development and growth.
- Strategies that consider how land use promotes economic development that alleviates poverty and develops a strong workforce.
- Creating and using new capital and investment opportunities for existing low-income residents to overcome economic and employment challenges.
- Prioritizing high job quality standards, including job training, sustainable wages, childcare and other employment support, in new economic development projects.
- Promoting and nurturing local community entrepreneurship opportunities.

Equitable Housing requires...

- Low-, very-low, and extremely-low income families have access to decent, affordable housing in mixed-income neighborhoods.
- A safe and healthy housing stock, free from environmental hazards and in compliance with the housing code.
- Development of housing affordable to lower-income families near amenities, health and social services, transportation, and quality job opportunities.
- Achieving a jobs/housing balance in the City that will meet the housing and employment needs of lower-income families and individuals.
- Any city incentives provided to real estate developers, such as density bonuses, redevelopment funds, or tax breaks, will result in community benefits for local residents.
- Meeting the particular housing needs of special needs groups, including large families, single-parent households, persons with disabilities and homeless individuals and families.

Equitable Transportation requires...

- A commitment to maintaining and improving public transportation services throughout the city.
- Reduced automobile usage and vehicle miles traveled in Richmond.
- Promotion of alternative transportation modes through providing safe, attractive, and convenient routes for bicyclists and pedestrians.
- Improved residential streets with calmed and slowed traffic.
- Transit that remains affordable to the most vulnerable populations of the community.

REDI organizations are Urban Habitat, Contra Costa Faith Works!, East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy (EBASE), Center for Community Innovation, ACORN, the Asian Pacific Environmental Network, Communities for a Better Environment, and Ma'at Youth Academy.